



A Vietnam Case Study: Partnerships for Improving Helmet Safety Jimmy Tang, AIP Foundation

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ABOUT US

AIP Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing road traffic fatalities and injuries in low-and middle-income countries.







96.4 million population

5th fastest growing economy in the world

59.2 million two- and three wheelers **24,970** annual road traffic fatalities **499,400** annual road traffic injuries

ECONOMIC GROWTH





ROAD DEATH & INJURY 1994 - 2002



INJURIES DOUBLED FROM 14,174 to 29,872 OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

(Ministry of Health data reported by Hung, Stevenson, & Ivers, 2006).

HELMET LAWS

Resolution 2/2 March 2001

Helmet wearing is made compulsory for all motorcyclists but only on regulated roads, and there is no enforcement.

Decree 152/ 15 December 2005

Penalties for non-helmet use on highways are increased (up to 1.76 USD) + offenders motorcycle confiscated. Despite higher fines,

the impact is limited.

Decree 36/ 29 May 1995 Helmet use legislation is introduced – but no fines are instituted for non-compliance.

Decree 39/ 13 July 2001

Fines of 20,000 VND (\$0.88 USD) are introduced for those not wearing helmets, failing to deter people from breaking the law.





In 2006, helmet use rates are 29% on national highways but only 6% in cities.

VIETNAM HELMET WEARING COALITION



VIETNAM NATIONAL HELMET LAW

15 DECEMBER 2007





HELMET LAW LONG TERM IMPACT

2007 – 2017



LEGAL LOOPHOLE

FOR CHILDREN

Resolution 32/ 29 June 2007: No legal penalties when children <14 don't wear helmets.

Decree 34/2 April 2010: Fines apply to drivers when children age 6+ don't wear helmets.



NATIONAL CHILD HELMET ACTION PLAN (NCHAP) 2014 – 2016:



COMPONENTS

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Establish public-private partnerships to sustain NCHAP Integrated multi-sector initiative to increase child helmet use

NCHAP RESULTS

CHANGES IN CHILD HELMET USE RATES



RISING CHALLENGE: HELMET QUALITY

A large proportion of road users continue to use substandard helmets; many **motorcyclists wore helmets** predominantly **to avoid a fine**.

A 2020 study conducted by AIP Foundation in Vietnam found that of 540 surveyed helmets...

- **89.5%** of tested helmets were **substandard**
- **21%** of child helmets collected were **cap-style helmets**
- 40% of child helmets had been used for >3 years



Half-face helmet splits in half during impact testing, despite passing all weight, size, and parts tests.



A helmet breaks during weight testing.

WAY FORWARD

Decree 98:

From 15 October 2020, fines increased for manufacturers of counterfeit goods, including helmets.

National Strategy for Road Traffic Order and Safety 2021-2030:

Ministry of Industry and Trade will assume responsibility for control and prevention of production and circulation of sub-standard helmets.

National Road Traffic Law:

The government has issued a technical study on 5 risk factors, including helmet and child helmet use. The study reviewed current policy inadequacies and produced recommendations for the amendment of the law.

Harmonization of standards around the world:

Social enterprise Protec works with the FIA to produce a new helmet model that will meet the UN safety standard ECE-22.05.

The rate of helmet wearing among children reached **70 percent** in **63 cities and provinces nationwide** during the **2019-2020** school year



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IS CRITICAL







FOUNDATION





THANK YOU

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